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By: **Delegate Gordon**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2003

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Criminal Violations - Statute of Limitations**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the statute of limitations for a prosecution of certain  
4 criminal offenses under the State election law.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
6 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
7 Section 5-106(f) and (h)  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2002 Replacement Volume)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

13 5-106.

14 (f) A prosecution for the commission of or the attempt to commit a  
15 misdemeanor constituting: (1) [except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, a  
16 criminal offense under the State election laws; or (2)] a criminal offense under the  
17 Maryland Public Ethics Law; or [(3)] (2) criminal malfeasance, misfeasance, or  
18 nonfeasance in office committed by an officer of the State, or of an agency of the State,  
19 or of a political subdivision of the State, or of a bicounty or multicounty agency in the  
20 State shall be instituted within 2 years after the offense was committed.

21 (h) A prosecution FOR THE COMMISSION OF OR THE ATTEMPT TO COMMIT A  
22 MISDEMEANOR CONSTITUTING A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER THE STATE ELECTION  
23 LAW OR to impose a civil fine for an offense arising under § 13-604 of the Election  
24 Law Article shall be instituted within [3] 4 years after the offense was committed.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2003.